

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

PROCEEDINGS

**Sub: Violation of rights of Scheduled Tribes-Appointment of Shri Arjun Lal Meena as Lecturer in SBS College.—Discussion held on 02.05.2008.**

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes had received a representation from Shri Arjun Lal Meena regarding denial of appointment to the post of Lecturer in Shaheed Bhagat Singh College of Delhi University, even though he was selected as the best No. 1 candidate by the Selection Committee. As the reply received from the Shaheed Bhagat Singh College and Delhi University was not satisfactory, the matter was discussed in the hearing held at 12:00 noon on 02.05.2008 in the Chamber of Hon'ble Chairperson, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, New Delhi. Shri Aditya Mishra, Joints Secretary and Shri R.C. Durga, Director, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes assisted the Hon'ble Chairperson. Shri P.K. Khurana, Acting Principal, SBS College and Shri U.J. Suresh, Dy. Registrar and Liaison Officer (SC/ST), Delhi University attended the hearing. Shri Arjun Lal Meena, petitioner was also present.

2. The Commission was informed that advertisement was given for filling various posts of Lecturers and other categories. These included two posts of Lecturer in Geography Department- One reserved for SC and the other was UR. As very few candidates had applied for these posts in response to the advertisement and therefore, in order to fill these posts names of 60 candidates were downloaded from the website of UGC. Out of these 60 candidates, 27 candidates appeared for the Interview. After interviewing the candidates, the Selection Committee recommended the name of five candidates in order of merit, for the posts of Lecturer in Geography. Mr. Arjun Lal Meena was the first in the merit list followed by two SC candidates, one-ST and an other SC candidates. No candidate from the General category was in the select list. The Commission was further informed that the matter was referred to UGC as well as Delhi University for advice since Shri Arjun Lal Meena, the selected meritorious candidate, belonged to ST as there was no post of Lecturer reserved for ST. Although UGC approved for appointment of Shri Arjun Lal Meena, Delhi University objected to his appointment against the post reserved for SC.

3. The Commission observed that Shri Arjun Lal Meena was highly qualified and JRF awardee and yet his claim was ignored inspite of being rated as the best candidate by the Selection Committee. The Commission further observed that out of two posts of Lecturer, one post was reserved for SC while other was meant for General candidate and that a candidate belonging to SC or ST could be appointed on own merit against General post and further that since Shri Arjun Lal Meena, ST and Ms. Kanika, SC were at No. 1 and No. 2 in the select list, both of them could be appointed. The Commission observed that this would not call for exchange of the vacancy reserved for SC but appointment of a ST candidate on own merit General post and appointment of a SC candidate against SC reserved post.

4. Shri P.K. Khurana, Acting Principal, SBS College informed that he was basically the Principal of the Evening College and that he had been given additional charge of the Morning Branch after the suspension of the Principal of the Morning College of SBS College on the grounds of certain irregularities. Shri Khurana also informed that he had already taken steps for filling various vacant posts reserved for SCs/ STs in the College and stated that in the present case, perhaps, the authorities did not bear in mind, the rule relating to appointment of ST/ SC candidates on their own merit against General post. The Acting Principal assured that he would look into the whole process and ensure that the appointments of the selected candidates are made, as per discussions, by 16 July 2008 when the College would reopen after Summer vacations and also furnish a copy each of the orders issued in this matter, to the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes.